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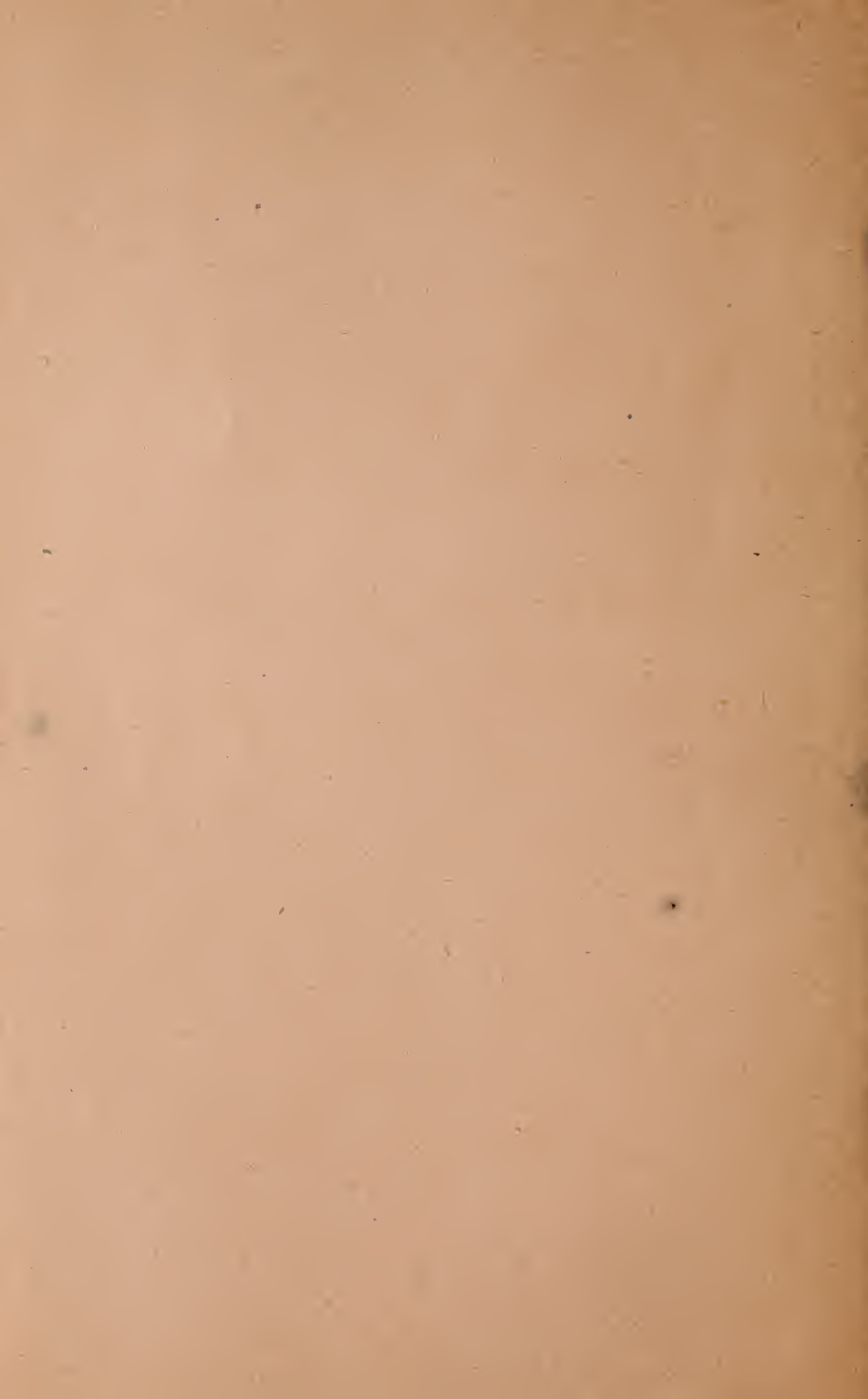
W482AR,

1899

Annual Report
OF THE
Selectmen,
Overseers of the Poor,
Treasurer and Town Clerk
OF THE
Town of Wendell,
For the Year Ending, Feb. 10th, 1899.
Together With the Report of the
School Committee,
And Sinking Fund Commissioners,
And Auditor.

TURNERS FALLS, MASS.:

PRINTED BY CECIL T. BAGNALL, PROPRIETOR OF REPORTER,
1899.



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1899.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

To the Citizens of Wendell:

Whole amount of money raised by taxation, \$5103 47
 Total number of orders issued from March 12th,
 1898, to February 10th, 1899, is 353,
 amounting to \$5138.47, for the following purposes :
 1898.

NO. OF ORDER.

1	Mar. 12, Wm. G. Holden, State aid month of February,	\$6 00
2	Lucy A. Barrows, State aid, month of February,	4 00
3	Geo. H. Russell, State aid month of February,	4 00
4	John C. Holston, services as Moderator, March '98,	2 00
5	Joel Tucker, snow bill,	1 50
6	26, R. L. Sibley, board of Chas. Rogers, February and March,	25 97
7	Orange Electric Light Co., house rent, Mrs. Lund,	54 00
8	Geo. H. Russell, State aid month of March,	4 00
9	Wm. G. Holden, State aid,	6 00
10	Lucy A. Barrows, State aid,	4 00
11	Alburn Fiske, snow bill,	11 90
12	Town of Orange, aid furnished J. H. Whitney,	36 85
13	Town of Shutesbury, tuition of scholars,	6 00
14	Harold Merchant, building fires, North-west school,	50
15	Town of New Salem, tuition of scholars,	10 80
16	C. M. Ballou, snow bill,	2 40
17	E. D. Graves, groceries for Mrs. Begor,	6 75
18	G. A. Lewis, inspecting meat and cattle,	21 50
19	C. R. Johnson, snow bill,	1 65
20	C. H. Jennison, snow bill,	18 95

NO. OF ORDER.

21	E. S. Putnam, groceries and wood, Mrs. Lund,	60 51
22	Alfred Boynton, fire bill,	1 50
23	N. D. Plumb, snow bill,	1 95
24	E. D. Graves, wood, Allen school,	7 88
25	John H. Wentworth, expenses in moving Polander to hospital,	7 79
26	Henry L. Hoyt, repairs on stove and pipe, town hall,	2 96
27	E. H. Abbott, snow bill,	4 80
28	Geo. Kent, snow bill,	3 60
29	Frank Kent, snow bill,	3 30
30	Apr. 26, Chas. C. Blaney, treasurer Medfield Insane Asylum, on acct. Wyman,	18 72
31	Lewis F. Babbitt, treasurer Northampton Insane Asylum,	169 16
32	Wm. G. Holden, State aid,	6 00
33	Geo. H. Russell, State aid,	4 00
34	Lucy A. Barrows, State aid,	4 00
35	C. C. Stebbins, snow bill,	2 55
36	T. J. Haskell, snow bill,	2 50
37	Almon Dirth, snow bill,	4 00
38	Geo. Minor, snow bill,	1 87
39	Nathan & Calvin Hudson, snow bill,	12 82
40	Cecil T. Bagnall, printing town reports,	28 80
41	Geo. H. Russell, sawing wood, West school,	1 00
42	Lucy J. Mitchell, teaching school,	16 00
43	Annie Miller, teaching school,	9 00
44	Alburn Fiske, 334 ft. wood to Wm. Johnson,	10 25
45	Alburn Fiske, 128 ft. wood, West school,	3 00
46	R. O. Benjamin, snow bill,	3 15
47	E. D. Graves, groceries and wood, Mrs. Begor,	15 89
48	W. D. Strong, three months' house rent, Boleo family,	24 00
49	F. F. Johnson, M. D., services and attendance State pauper,	11 75
50	Andrew Baker, aid to C. O. Lock,	8 64
51	Jesse Powers, snow bill,	1 12

NO. OF ORDER.

52	Lorenzo Gould, snow bill,	1 05
53	Wm. H. Davis, snow bill,	1 05
54	E. F. Buzzell, snow bill,	11 40
55	Andrew Baker, snow bill,	11 50
56	Franklin Co. Hospital, board of State pauper,	21 00
57	N. D. Plumb, board of Chas. Rogers, month of April,	11 39
58	Uri Stone, snow bill,	2 40
59	E. A. Rich, snow bill,	2 25
60	C. A. Lewis, snow bill,	4 05
61	C. A. Lewis, services as ballot clerk, March 5th, 1898,	2 00
62	Harlan Howe, snow bill,	10 40
63	A. C. Merchant, snow bill,	2 20
64	G. A. Merchant, snow bill,	1 50
65	Delmer Soper, snow bill,	5 44
66	N. B. Symonds, snow bill,	3 30
67	John B. Davis, snow bill,	4 04
68	Chas. E. Powers, snow bill,	3 00
69	E. S. Woodard, snow bill,	4 93
70	Julia Kavana, librarian services,	12 50
71	John H. Wentworth, expenses to Tewks- bury with State pauper,	10 05
72	May 12, Albert Dunican, sawing wood Allen school,	2 63
73	Willie Hunter, building fires Allen school,	2 50
74	Allie Thomas, building fires Northwest school,	75
75	Wilford Davis, building fires Northwest school,	1 00
76	W. W. Hunt, going to Farley for names and ages of scholars,	2 00
77	May 28, Wm. G. Holden, State aid month of May,	6 00
78	Lucy A. Barrows, State aid month of May,	4 00
79	Geo. H. Russell, State aid month of May,	4 00
80	Jerome Cutter, mileage Center school,	4 00
81	R. P. Cornwell, snow bill,	19 00

NO. OF ORDER.

82	Joseph Champagne, highway work,	5 25
83	Jerome Cutter, highway bill,	17 50
84	Jerome Cutter, snow bill,	2 86
85	Alfred C. Kezar, highway work,	5 25
86	J. C. Holston, services as auctioneer,	1 50
87	John Walker, highway work,	5 85
88	John Harris, conveying scholars,	1 50
89	Henry L. Hoyt, expense in selling town farm property,	4 00
90	J. H. Sears, B. B. L. Flower, C. O. Lock,	5 50
91	Andrew Baker, bridge plank,	27 73
92	Eugene Blair, snow bill,	1 05
93	Caleb Cary, snow bill,	60
94	Frazier Cary, snow bill,	2 10
95	Geo. E. Allen, scraper edge,	8 00
96	Chester Clark, snow bill,	3 60
97	J. E. Clark, snow bill,	2 50
98	Geo. E. Clark, snow bill,	45
99	J. H. Wentworth, snow bill,	90
100	W. H. Leonard, snow bill,	1 05
101	Chester Clark, highway work,	1 50
102	W. H. Leonard, highway work,	45
103	Julia Kavana, $\frac{1}{2}$ appropriation for books for library,	12 50
104	N. D. Plumb, board of Chas. Rogers month of May,	12 18
105	N. D. Plumb, dog license book,	1 00
106	June 25, Lucy A. Barrows, State aid,	4 00
107	Wm. G. Holden, State aid,	6 00
108	Geo. H. Russell, State aid,	4 00
109	James B. Marsh, clothing for Chas. Rogers,	7 00
110	C. A. Stearns, teaching school,	108 00
111	E. D. Graves, groceries Mrs. Begor,	8 00
112	Horacetina Crowley, teaching school,	90 00
113	N. D. Plumb, board of Chas. Rogers, June,	11 78
114	Andrew Baker, groceries and cash to C. O. Lock,	7 45
115	Chas. M. Ballou, highway work,	14 00
116	Rob. Boynton, highway work,	11 25

NO. OF ORDER.

117		G. A. Lewis, highway work,	4 50
118		N. D. Plumb, highway work,	12 00
119		Chas. Jennison, highway work,	25 00
120		Andrew Baker, wood for school, two cords,	7 50
121		E. S. Woodard, highway work,	12 50
122		E. J. Taylor, highway work,	6 00
123		Julia Kavana, services as Librarian to July 1st, 1898,	6 25
124	July 1,	Frank Taylor, highway work,	6 30
125		Chas. A. Lewis, highway work,	7 00
126		Thomas Flanigan, snow bill,	1 20
127		Eugene Blair, highway work,	6 75
128	6,	Delmer Soper, highway work,	18 65
129	13,	John Harris, highway work,	14 00
130	30,	Alburn Fiske, highway work,	79 55
131		Alburn Fiske, bridge plank,	14 00
132		Frank Kent, highway work,	5 25
133		Alburn Fiske, $1\frac{1}{4}$ cord wood, Wm. Johnson,	5 00
134		Town of Montague, tuition of scholars,	72 00
135		Town of Erving, tuition of scholars,	200 00
136		Lizzie Mason, school supplies,	17 11
137		Chas. Flynn, snow bill,	6 25
138		Town of New Salem, tuition of scholars,	22 50
139		E. D. Graves, supplies Allen school,	95
140		Lewis F. Babbitt, treasurer Northampton Insane Asylum, bill,	169 00
141		Wm. G. Holden, State aid,	6 00
142		Geo. H. Russell, State aid,	4 00
143		Lucy A. Barrows, State aid,	4 00
144		N. B. Symonds, highway work,	3 30
145		Chas. Woodard, highway work,	3 30
146		Effie L. Bowen, teaching school,	78 00
147		L. M. Hook, teaching school,	84 00
148		Frances Stewart, teaching school,	90 00
149	Aug. 4,	Harlan Howe, highway work,	5 00
150		Andrew Baker, highway work,	82 62
151		Andrew Baker, bridge plank,	6 59
152		Eugene Riley, highway work,	4 20
153		Axel Hook, highway work,	4 50

NO. OF ORDER.

154	E. L. Packard, highway work,	5 10
155	G. A. Merchant, highway work,	5 85
156	G. A. Strong, highway work,	4 50
157	John B. Davis, highway work,	36 97
158	Lorenzo Gould, highway work,	2 85
159	S. M. Keith, highway work,	4 50
160	E. F. Buzzell, highway work,	30 75
161	R. L. Sibley, highway work,	6 00
162	Weatherbery, highway work,	1 50
163	C. R. Johnson, highway work,	4 95
164	Curtis Tucker, highway work,	6 00
165	Joel Tucker, highway work,	7 50
166	Emory Clark, highway work,	7 35
167	Geo. Clark, highway work,	8 85
168	Chester Clark, highway work,	17 15
169	J. H. Wentworth, highway work,	22 80
170	J. H. Wentworth, bridge plank,	2 64
171	J. H. Wentworth, freight on scraper edge,	50
172	W. H. Ballou, highway work,	10 00
173	John C. Holston, highway work,	3 00
174	Wm. H. Leonard, highway work,	4 50
175	Wm. H. Wright, highway work,	4 50
176	Wallace Brown, highway work,	1 35
177	A. E. Miner, highway work,	4 50
178	John Walker, highway work,	1 50
179	Geo. H. Russell, highway work,	14 25
180	Alonzo Granger, highway work,	12 00
181	Calvin Hudson, highway work,	1 50
182	Wm. W. Fiske, highway work,	1 50
183	Robert Boynton, highway work,	7 50
184	Joel Tucker, highway work,	6 85
185	Frick Piano Case Co., abatement on 1897 tax,	162 00
186	John C. Holston, collector, abatements on 1897 taxes,	35 30
187	N. D. Plumb, board of Chas. Rogers, month of July,	12 18
188	W. E. Goddard, highway work,	6 52
189	Elsworth J. Taylor, labor in cemetery,	1 50
190	C. S. Stone, snowing bridge at Stone- ville,	4 85
191	Aug. 27, Wm. W. Fiske, highway work,	1 50

NO. OF ORDER.

192	Nelson D. Plumb, board of Chas. Rogers,	12 18
193	S. M. Keith, snow bill,	3 03
194	Geo. H. Russell, State aid,	4 00
195	Lucy A. Barrows, State aid,	4 00
196	Wm. G. Holden, State aid,	6 00
197	E. Packard, Mileage Centre school,	2 50
198	S. J. TenBrook, M. D., professional services, Mrs. Begor,	10 00
199	Sept. 9, Wm. H. Ballou, highway work,	31 75
200	Wm. H. Wright, highway work,	7 50
201	24, Geo. H. Russell, State aid,	4 00
202	Wm. G. Holden, State aid,	6 00
203	Lucy A. Barrows, State aid,	4 00
204	Chas. H. Jennison, highway work,	56 63
205	Mr. Jackson, highway work,	4 50
206	S. M. Keith, highway work,	5 25
207	E. F. Buzzell, highway work,	6 50
208	Nelson D. Plumb, board of Chas. Rogers, September,	11 70
209	Frank E. Boynton, stock and labor on Centre schoolhouse,	6 50
210	Andrew Baker, goods to C. O. Lock,	1 00
211	Alburn Fiske, cash paid out for witness and counsel fees to get a guardian appointed for Mr. and Mrs. Oaks,	11 00
212	E. D. Graves, groceries and wood to Mrs. Begor,	18 98
213	Alburn Fiske, 1 3-16 cord wood to Wm. Johnson,	5 50
214	Alburn Fiske, shoes and stockings for Kezar children,	3 15
215	H. L. Hoyt, selling grass on town farm,	3 00
216	H. L. Hoyt, labor on flag pole,	75
217	H. L. Hoyt, labor on scraper,	60
218	Julia Kavana, balance appropriation for books, library,	12 50
219	Lewis F. Babbitt, treasurer Northampton Insane Asylum, bill,	170 84
220	Alfred Boynton, highway work,	5 25
221	Oct 29, E. L. Packard, highway work,	2 70

NO. OF ORDER.

222	W. H. Leonard, highway work,	4 50
223	Jerome Woodard, highway work,	3 00
224	E. S. Woodard, highway work,	20 00
225	John Walker, highway work,	3 00
226	Fred Davis, highway work,	6 98
227	Uri Stone, highway work,	1 50
228	John Harris, highway work,	5 25
229	Bertram E. Russell, abatement on 1897 and 1898 tax,	4 00
230	J. H. Wentworth, highway work,	30 15
231	Chas. M. Ballou, highway work,	29 40
232	Rice E. Soper, abatement on 1894 to 1898 tax,	6 00
233	Calvin C. Hudson, services as assessor, 1898,	17 50
234	N. D. Plumb, highway work,	3 00
235	N. D. Plumb, making certified copy assessors' book,	5 00
236	N. D. Plumb, collector's book and postage,	2 00
237	Nelson D. Plumb, services as assessor,	23 00
238	Harry Dudley, abatement on tax of 1897 and 1898,	3 50
239	George Woods, abatement on 1898 tax,	4 40
240	Frazier Cary, abatement on 1898 tax,	2 50
241	Thomas Flanagan, abatement on 1898 tax,	2 00
242	C. C. Stebbins, abatement on 1898 tax,	1 00
243	Lizzie Mason, school supplies,	63 43
244	Emory Clark, highway work,	4 50
245	W. D. Strong, house rent for Boleo family,	24 00
246	Mercury Publishing Co., blank notices,	2 00
247	Geo. Clark, highway work,	11 25
248	Chester Clark, highway work,	10 50
249	Geo. H. Russell, State aid,	4 00
250	Lucy A. Barrows, State aid,	4 00
251	Wm. G. Holden, State aid,	6 00
252	N. D. Plumb, board of Chas. Rogers, October,	12 18
253	Nov. 26, Cecil T. Bagnall, printing voting lists,	2 90
254	Wm. G. Holden, State aid for November,	6 00

NO. OF ORDER.

255	Geo. H. Russell, State aid,	4 00
256	Lucy A. Barrows, State aid,	4 00
257	E. Jackson, highway work,	4 20
258	Lorenzo Gould, highway work,	1 35
259	S. M. Keith, highway work,	2 70
260	E. F. Buzzell, highway work,	6 30
261	John Rock, snow bill,	1 50
262	E. D. Graves, school supplies, Allen school,	5 45
263	Nelson D. Plumb, board of Chas. Rogers,	11 70
264	Harlan Howe, highway work,	7 54
265	Henry Jostlyn, highway work,	4 35
266	J. B. Davis, highway work,	3 45
267	Andrew Baker, highway work,	14 90
268	Charles M. Ballou, services as assessor, 1898,	17 50
269	Chas. M. Ballou, keeping seven tramps over night,	3 50
270	Dec. 12, Frank Taylor, snow bill, Nov. 28, 1898,	7 20
271	Mrs. L. P. Lewis, mileage of Mrs. Murry's children,	6 50
272	30, William G. Holden, State aid,	6 00
273	Geo. H. Russell, State aid,	4 00
274	Lucy A. Barrows, State aid,	4 00
275	John C. Holston, highway work,	75
276	John C. Holston, snow bill,	1 05
277	John C. Holston, posting notices, No- vember election,	2 00
278	C. A. Stearns, teaching school,	72 00
279	L. S. Clary, teaching school,	78 00
280	Mabel S. Morse, teaching school,	96 00
281	Frances Stewart, teaching school,	90 00
282	L. M. Hook, teaching school,	84 00
283	John C. Holston, services as auctioneer,	1 50
284	E. D. Graves, groceries, Mrs. Begor,	17 89
285	Cecil T. Bagnall, printing 100 town warrant blanks,	2 25
286	C. A. Lewis, ballot clerk, Nov. election,	2 00
287	G. A. Lewis, part payment, inspecting meat,	22 75

NO. OF ORDER.

288	Nelson D. Plumb, board of Chas. Rogers, month of December,	12 18
289	Jan. 4, Lewis F. Babbitt, board of insane at Northampton,	170 84
290	Nelson D. Plumb, express and postage,	7 14
291	Nelson D. Plumb, return of marriages,	90
292	Nelson D. Plumb, recording deaths,	4 20
293	Nelson D. Plumb, return of births,	5 00
294	Nelson D. Plumb, services as town clerk,	12 00
295	E. D. Graves, services as school committee,	5 00
296	Willie Leonard, building fires, Allen school,	3 00
297	C. A. Stearns, cash expended, schools,	7 65
298	Mrs. C. P. Parker, mileage Centre school,	2 25
299	C. A. Stearns, services as school com- mittee,	15 00
300	E. F. Buzzell, services as school com- mittee and supplies,	10 60
301	E. D. Graves, wood, Allen school, and cutting,	4 25
302	Miss Bessie Brown, abatement on 1898 tax,	10 00
303	Darius Lezott, abatement on 1898 tax,	2 00
304	Joseph Howe, abatement on 1898 tax,	7 00
305	Geo. H. Russell, State aid,	4 00
306	Wm. G. Holden, State aid,	6 00
307	Lucy A. Barrows, State aid,	4 00
308	Nelson D. Plumb, board Chas. Rogers, January,	12 18
309	Walter Goddard, mileage Centre school,	8 00
310	Uri A. Stone, mileage Centre school,	3 25
311	C. A. Stearns, teaching school,	108 00
312	Walter Goddard, snow bill,	2 00
313	L. M. Hook, teaching school,	56 00
314	L. S. Clary, teaching school,	39 00
315	Mabel S. Morse, teaching school,	64 00
316	Frances Stewart, teaching school,	60 00
317	Lizzie Mason, school supplies,	8 51
318	Wm. H. Ballou, 2½ cords wood, Centre school,	11 25

NO. OF ORDER.

319	Julia Kavana, librarian, services to Dec. 31, 1898,	12 50
320	William H. Ballou, highway work,	1 25
321	Chester Clark, highway work,	1 50
322	J. H. Wentworth, blasting powder and sharpening drills,	1 50
323	J. H. Wentworth, highway work,	3 30
324	Stanislaus Kruiswicz, highway work,	7 10
325	William L. Joslyn, snow bill,	75
326	Everett Rich, snow bill,	75
327	Alburn Fiske, 4 1-6 cords wood to Wm. Johnson,	13 50
328	R. P. Cornwell, snow bill,	8 50
329	Alburn Fiske, snow bill,	9 00
330	Alburn Fiske, plank and highway work,	1 50
331	Almon Dirth, highway work,	6 00
332	Almon Dirth, snow bill,	75
333	Uri Stone, snow bill,	60
334	E. L. Packard, snow bill,	75
335	N. B. Simonds, snow bill,	45
336	O. Riley, snow bill,	90
337	Harlan Howe, snow bill,	6 37
338	Geo. Strong, snow bill,	1 12
339	Delmer Soper, snow bill,	1 57
340	Rice E. Soper, snow bill,	4 50
341	John B. Davis, snow bill,	1 79
342	Geo. A. Merchant, snow bill,	1 35
343	A. C. Merchant, snow bill,	3 00
344	Andrew Baker, snow bill,	9 75
345	Andrew Baker, services as selectman and overseer of poor,	35 00
346	John H. Wentworth, services as selectman and overseer of poor,	35 00
347	C. T. Headburg, snow bill,	3 00
348	F. E. Johnson, M. D., professional services to Boleo family,	4 40
349	Alburn Fiske, justice fees, writing material, postage, etc.,	6 00
350	Alburn Fiske, services as selectman and overseer of poor,	83 50
351	Chas. M. Ballou, keeping four tramps over night,	2 00

NO. OF ORDER.

352	Chas. M. Ballou, services as constable,	10 00
353	H. L. Hoyt, services as treasurer,	40 00
		<hr/>
		\$5138 47

 LIABILITIES, FEB. 10th, 1899.

The National Revere Bank, Boston,	\$8000 00	
Orange Savings Bank,	1000 00	
Outstanding orders,	298 57	
On estate of Edwin Stone,	14 22	
		<hr/>
		\$9312 79

CASH ASSETS, FEB. 10th, 1890.

DEPOSITED IN.	PRIN.	AND INT.
Orange Savings Bank,	\$1000 00	\$1361 98
Franklin Savings Institution,	800 00	1014 46
Athol " Bank,	1000 00	1195 90
Amherst " "	1000 00	1142 34
Crocker Institution for Savings,	800 00	965 56
Brattleboro Savings Bank,	1000 00	1103 78
Greenfield " "	800 00	800 00
Greenfield " " Town Farm Fund,		953 11
Int. due on Mary Phelps Bank Book,		16 48
Int. on R. P. Cornwell note,		32 40
John C. Holston, Tax Collector, due on 1897 tax,		274 34
John C. Holston, Tax Collector, due on 1898 tax,		2111 66
State Treasurer, state aid,		204 00
Due from State, state paupers,		70 41
Due from State, school money,		180 00
		<hr/>
		\$11,426 42

OTHER RESOURCES, FEB. 10th, 1899.

Town Farm,	\$800 00	
Estate of Wm. H. Phelps,	800 00	
Mary Phelps fund,	200 00	
R. P. Cornwell, note,	540 00	
E. W. Fisher, land,	50 00	
Road Scraper,	50 00	
	<hr/>	\$2440 00

ALBURN FISKE,	}	Selectmen of Wendell.
ANDREW BAKER,		
JOHN H. WENTWORTH,		

OVERSEERS OF POOR.

BOARDERS.

We, the Overseers of the Poor, have hired Mr. Chas. Rogers boarded by Nelson D. Plumb for \$2.75 per week, and the place and board were accepted by the State Board of Lunacy and Charity, who has been visited and looked after according to law.

We have only one boarder that is fully supported. Chas. Rogers, age 78. Tramps lodged over night, 7.

At Northampton Lunatic Hospital, there are four persons for which the total cost is \$42.71 for each one per year. The balance of the expenses is paid by the state.

ALBURN FISKE,	} Overseers
ANDREW BAKER,	
J. H. WENTWORTH,	
	of Poor,
	Wendell.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR END- ING FEB. 11, 1899.

RECEIPTS.

Received of H. L. Hoyt, Treasurer, 1897,	\$48 96
State Treasurer, State aid,	240 00
Income Mass. school fund,	479 62
Account lunatic paupers,	687 43
Reimbursement teachers,	294 00
Account State paupers,	176 78
Tuition of pupils in high school,	94 50
$\frac{1}{2}$ cost cattle inspection,	23 25
Orange Savings Bank, loans,	1500 00
Town of Brewster, account Mrs. Lund,	114 51
C. A. Stearns, State money for supt.,	73 83
C. A. Stearns, account W. H. Stearns,	42 30
County Treasurer, dog money returned,	62 20
Sale of personal property from town farm,	88 53
Hay from town farm and common,	34 00
R. P. Cornwell, int. on Luke Leach note to Jan. 7, 1898,	32 40
W. S. Allen, Clerk of courts, fines,	18 03
G. A. Lewis, wood from town farm,	22 50
Use town farm pasture,	5 00
Apples sold from town farm,	2 00
J. C. Holston, coll. on tax of 1897,	2140 96
" " " int. on tax of 1897,	27 50
" " " on tax of 1898,	2991 81
	\$9200 11

EXPENDITURES.

Paid State Treasurer, state tax,	\$135 00
State, interest on \$8000 note, to Nov. 1, '98,	320 00
County treasurer, county tax,	552 46

Paid Orange Savings Bank, loan 1897,	1500 00
" " " " 1898,	500 00
" " " interest on loans,	72 16
Deposit in Greenfield Savings Bank, sinking fund,	800 00
L. A. Mason, salary as School Supt.,	94 53
E. S. Hall, Washburn claim,	43 15
W. H. Ward, fees, case Myrtle Kezar,	37 18
E. J. Pratt, fees, case C. Locke,	9 51
E. C. Fowler, fees, case E. S. Blair,	15 09
" " H. Begor and F. Taylor,	15 16
Selectmen's orders, 1897,	245 00
" " 1898,	4839 90
Cash on hand, Feb. 11, 1899,	20 97
	<hr/>
	\$9200 11

H. L. HOYT, Treasurer.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE TOWN OF WENDELL, FOR THE YEAR 1898.

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN WENDELL, 1898.

	NAME.	PARENTS.
March 3,	Jessie Ephriam,	Calvin O. and Emma M. Lock.
May 20,	Charlie Elwin,	John B. and Nellie A. (Stacy) Agard.
July 29,	Maud Elsie,	Frank G. and Alice (Dresser) Taylor.
May 24,	Maride Alice,	Frazier and Ida M. Carey.
Aug. 4,	Clarence Cullen,	Ezra B. and Nora (Cummings) Begor.
Feb. 21,	Still Born,	Anthony and Pratrine Mankelew.
Mar. 27,	Anthony,	Joe and Avey Welch.
Aug. 11,	William H.,	John and Jennie S. (Blair) Burkhardt.
Feb. 5,	Maud Grace Josephine,	
		William H. and Maud (Stiles) Ballou.
Dec. 27,	Stanislaus,	Stanislaus and Josephine Kruiswicz.

Comparison table of Births for the last five years:

1894	1895	1896	1897	1898
9	12	14	13	10

MARRIAGES REGISTERED.

- Jan. 17, Napoleon Dizotell of Farley, age 20, and Manda Parent of Farley, age 19, by Rev. J. C. Allard.
- Jan. 26, Erkin H. Wright of Farley, 22, and Sarah J. Lee of Erving, 18, by Rev. J. W. Brownville.
- April 10, Godenzio Angeline of Wendell, 36, and Eva Searles of Wendell, 38, by Enoch T. Lewis, J. P.
- April 20, Philip Parent of Farley, 24, and Inez Seeley of Farley, 24, by Rev. J. W. Brownville.
- April 25, Edward W. Rocque of Erving, 25, and Mary Barger on of Farley, 25, by Rev. J. C. Allard.
- Oct. 13, Charles H. Clark of Wendell, 22, and Edith J. Cobb of Wendell, 18, by Rev. E. P. Seymour.

Comparison table of Marriages for the last five years :

1894	1895	1896	1897	1898
7	5	5	1	6

DEATHS REGISTERED.

DATE.	NAME.	AGE.	DISEASE.
Jan. 5,	Carl B. Buzzell,	18,	Bright's Disease.
Jan. 14,	Ezra Begor,	66,	Heart "
Jan. 31,	Athlene J. Hunt,	4,	Meningitis.
Feb. 13,	John Wyman,	48,	Brain
July 5,	Abigal Putnam,	67,	Phtisis.
Aug. 7,	Marthy A. D. Brown,	55,	Cirrhosis of Liver.
Aug. 24,	Moses Williams,	83,	Cancer of Stomach.
Sept. 9,	Ira Mason Goddard,	1,	Congestion of Brain.
Oct. 25,	Elmo L. Goddard,	17,	Appendicitis.
Nov. 9,	Alex Lester E. Baker,	13,	Gun Shot Wound.
Dec. 5,	Edward H. King,	62,	Apoplexy.
Feb. 21,	Infant son of Antone and Pratine Mankelew.		

Comparison table of Deaths for the last five years:

1894	1895	1896	1897	1898
13	5	10	15	12

If any mistakes have been made in the above lists, either in names or dates, if those interested will inform the Town Clerk of the facts the record will be corrected.

DOGS.

The number of dogs licensed during the year ending November 30th, 1898, with the receipts and settlement of the account with the County Treasurer, is as follows :

License fee on two dogs received after return had been made to County Treasurer.

36 Male and Spayed dogs at \$2.00,	\$72 00
2 Female dogs at \$5.00,	10 00
	<hr/>
	\$82 00
Less fees, 38 dogs at 20 cents,	7 60
	<hr/>
	\$74 40
Paid E. A. Newcomb, County Treasurer,	70 80
	<hr/>
Balance on hand,	\$3 60

There has been recorded in the Town Clerk's office, from Jan. 1st, 1898, to Dec. 31st, 1898, 15 Mortgages of Personal Property.

Respectfully submitted,

N. D. PLUMB,
Town Clerk.

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SINK-
ING FUND COMMISSIONERS, FEB. 13,
1899.

LIABILITIES.

National Revere Bank, Boston,	\$8000 00
-------------------------------	-----------

FUNDS.

Deposit Orange Savings Band,	\$1000 00	
Accrued Interest,	361 98	
Deposit Franklin Savings Institution,	800 00	
Accrued Interest,	214 46	
Deposit Athol Savings Bank,	1000 00	
Accrued Interest,	195 90	
Deposit Amherst Savings Bank,	1000 00	
Accrued Interest,	142 34	
Deposit Crocker Institution for Savings,	800 00	
Accrued Interest,	165 56	
Deposit Brattleboro Savings Bank,	1000 00	
Accrued Interest,	103 78	
Deposit Greenfield Savings Bank,	800 00	
Total,		\$7,584 02

J. C. HOLSTON,	} Sinking Fund Commissioners of Wendell.
J. H. WENTWORTH,	
O. D. BAKER.	

COPY OF AN OLD REPORT.

The following report of the Town of Wendell was submitted by the Selectmen of the town, for the year ending March 2, 1843. The present Selectmen think that a perusal of the report of more than half a century ago, and comparison with the report of this year will prove both interesting and instructive to the citizens of Wendell. The original report was printed on a single sheet of paper, $7\frac{1}{4}$ x 16 inches in size, and the following is a verbatim copy :

REPORT

Of the Selectmen for the expenses of the town of Wendell, for the year ending on the second day of March, 1843:

Paid for abatement of Taxes,		\$14 45
“ Assessors' wages—1841, \$43,43; 1842, 21,30.	Total,	64 73
“ Schooling,		394 62
“ Town Clerk's Fees,		4 77
“ Militia services,		50 00
“ Highway work extra,		388 15
“ Selectmen services,		10 25
“ Support or Poor,—1841, \$431,47; 1842, \$535,09.		
“ Total,		966 56
“ Digging Graves,		9 20
“ School Committee,—1841, 12,62; 1842, \$5,00.	Total,	17 62
“ Trunk for Town Records,		2 50
“ Agency Fees, 1841,		47 61
“ Constable Fees,		5 00
		<hr/>
		\$1975 46

The Selectmen further report that they have settled with the Treasurer, and his account stands as follows:

DR.

To balance on settlement last year,	\$2161 46
To Monies not reckoned in settlement,	20 05
To sum received of State, (Militia Bounty) 1841,	55 00
To interest on Note, (Wd. Martin) S. F. Money,	9 00
To sum received of Selectmen. (balance between yoke of Oxen)	7 50
To sum received of Selectmen (S. Williams' effects,)	50
To sum received of C. O. Lincoln (Paupers' effects,)	1 60
To sum received of Josiah Clark (School Money)	32 44
To sum received of County Treasurer,	7 00
To some received of Wd. Martin, (S. F. Money,)	9 00
To sum received of G. Leach (Paupers' effects,)	3 54

To sum received of S. Macumber. (do. do.)	19
To sum received of School District No. 4, (overdrawn,)	2 78
To sum received of State Militia Bounty, 1842,	50 00
To sum received of town of Natick, (Poor,)	4 17
To sum received of town of Leverett,	62
To sum raised by town, including County Tax, overlayings & Highway Deficiencies,	2601 18
	<hr/>
	\$4965 93

CR.

By sum paid Virgil H. Whipple interest on Note,	\$86 43
By sum paid Col. S. Brewer in part for Poor Farm,	10 17
By sum paid for recording Deeds,	1 00
By sum paid Mass. H. Life I. Company,	210 00
By sum paid on Postage on Letter from H. L. I. Co.	13
By sum paid H. L. I. Co. principal in part,	400 00
By sum paid Interest on same,	5 00
Sum paid forwarding same,	50
Sum paid ten Militia Soldiers,	50 00
Sum of Orders taken up,	1925 00
Discount on \$1359.47 at 10 per cent,	135 95
By discount on \$219.61 at 6 per cent,	13 17
By County Tax \$224.45,	224 45
	<hr/>
	\$3061 70
Balance in Treasury, including \$700.39 due from the Collector last year,	\$1903 85
Town Orders outstanding,	19 15
	<hr/>
Net balance in Treasury,	\$1884 70

LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

Note due Samuel Brewer, dated April 12, 1842,	\$600 00
Leonard Scott's Note, dated April 12, 1842,	389 83
H. L. I. Co. \$3100, dated July 27th, 1840,	3100 00
Virgil H. Whipple \$750, dated April 5, 1839,	750 00
" " \$550, dated March 7, 1840,	550 00
" " \$200, dated June 27, 1840,	200 00
	<hr/>
	\$5589 83

ASSETTS.

Note against L. Holden dated July 23, 1838,	\$20.48
Note against Joshua Clark dated March 2, 1840,	143.26
To which add balance in Treasury,	1884.70
	<hr/>
Nett balance against Town,	\$3541 39

All which is submitted, JABEZ SAWYER, } *Selectmen*
JOSEPH NEEDHAM, } *of Wendell.*

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES WENDELL FREE LIBRARY.

TO THE SELECTMEN, TOWN OF WENDELL, MASS.:

The Library has been opened every Saturday since our last report, save one, when the roads and weather prevented.

Have issued since last report,	17	new cards
Have distributed since last report,	1783	books
" " in 4 years,	5798	"
" " in 5 years,	7581	"
We have added by purchase,	56	books
" " had given by Miss E. P. Sohier,	2	"
" " " " " W. H. Wright,	1	"
" " " " " C. B. Tillinghast,	1	"
" " " " " H. J. Kalloch,	1	"
" " " from State, Public doc.,	8	"
We had at our last report,	587	"
	<hr/>	"
	656	books.

The Travelling Library loans us 25 volumes.

The Woman's Educational society loans us two sets of pictures, one of the Congressional library, and one of Beasts and Birds. Mr. E. F. Buzzell has given one load of dry wood, and Mr. Holden carried for six months, the books to and from Wendell Depot, without charge.

Received from town,	\$25 00
Balance from last year,	6 54
Fines,	10
	<hr/>
	\$31 64
Paid for books,	\$23 89
" " two magazines,	2 00
" sundry expenses,	3 05
Cash on hand,	2 70
	<hr/>
	\$31 64

H. J. SMITH, Chairman,	} Trustees.
MRS. C. A. STEARNS,	
CHAS. M. BALLOU,	

MEMORANDUM OF NEW BOOKS.

- Allen, J. L. Choir Invisible.
 Austin, J. G. Pride and Prejudice.
- Barr, A. E. The King's Highway.
 The Last of the MacAllisters.
- Burnett, F. H. Editha's Burglar.
- Carey, R. N. Merle's Crusade.
 Nellie's Memories.
- Corkron, Alice. Margery Martin's Girlhood.
- Duchess. Lady Walworth's Diamonds.
- Dumas, A. Marguerite Valois.
- DeQuincey, T. Confessions of an Opium Eater.
- Ebers. An Egyptian Princess.
- Ewing. Flat Iron for a Farthing.
- Fenn, G. M. Nat the Naturalist.
- Forester. Viva.
 Roy and Viola.
 Fairy Land of Science.
- Haggard, Rider. Jess.
- Hardy, T. Tess of the D'urbervilles.
- Hawthorne, N. Scarlet Letter.
 House of the Seven Gables.
- Henty, G. A. Bravest of the Brave.
 Bonnie Prince Charlie.
 By England's Aid.
 Dragon and the Raven.
 Lion of the North.
 Under Drake's Flag.
- Holland. Our Army Nurses.
- Holms, P. Explorations and Adventures in S. Africa.
- Ingelow, J. Mopsa the Fairy.
- Ingraham, I. H. Prince of the House of David.

- Kingsley, C. Hypatia.
Water Babies.
- Knox. Boy Travellers in Central Africa.
- Lyall, E. In the Golden Days.
Won by Waiting.
- Marlitt, E. In the Schillings Court.
- Meade, L. T. Wild Kitty.
- McClelland. Broad Oakes.
- Molesworth. Us.
- Moore. Secret of the Court.
Mother Goose.
- Muhlbach, L. Daughter of an Empress.
Frederick the Great.
Queen Hortense.
- Mulock. The Little Lame Prince.
- Murray. A Dangerous Cat's Paw.
- Rhoscomyl, O. The Jewel of Yany's Galon.
- Roe, E. P. A Brave Little Quakeress.
Found Yet Lost.
- Russell, W. C. A Marriage at Sea.
- Sanders. Beautiful Joe.
- Schreiner, O. Story of an African Farm.
- Sienkiewicz, H. With Fire and Sword.
- Tytler, S. Girl Neighbors.
- Weyman, S. The Castle Inn.
- Wishaw. The Bear Hunter.
- Wistar, A. L. Second Wife.
- Young. Our War with Spain.

REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

TO THE CITIZENS OF WENDELL:—

Five schools were in operation during the year, one for thirty-three weeks; three for thirty-two weeks each; and one for thirty weeks.

As the school laws now read, thirty-two weeks is the minimum. The Northeast school was closed at the end of thirty weeks because of the small membership during the winter.

Important changes were made in the school attendance laws by the Legislature of 1898. These we have thought best to embody in this report that all may be conversant with them.

STATE LAWS, REFERRING TO SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

According to Section 12, Chapter 496 of the school laws, "Every child between seven and fourteen years of age, shall attend some public day school in the town or city in which he resides, during the entire time the public day schools are in session."

This attendance is of course not compulsory in cases of physical or mental disability.

SECTION 31. "Any person having under his control, a child between seven and fourteen years of age, who fails for five day sessions or ten half day sessions, within any period of six months while under such control, to cause such child to attend school as required by Section 12 of this act, the physical or mental condition of such child not being such as to render his attendance at school harmful or impracticable, upon complaint by a truant officer, and conviction thereof, shall forfeit and pay a fine of not more than twenty dollars. Any person who induces or attempts to induce any child to absent himself unlawfully from school, or employs or harbors while school is in session, any child absent unlawfully from school, shall forfeit and pay a fine of not more than fifty dollars."

FROM SECTION 34. "Truant officers of towns and cities shall inquire into all cases" arising under the foregoing sections "and may make complaints, serve legal processes and carry into execution judgments thereunder."

"A truant officer of any town or city may apprehend and take to school, without warrant, any truant or absentee found wandering about in the streets or public places thereof."

Beginning with the spring term, all cases of five day or ten half day absences will, in accordance with the foregoing, be reported to the truant officers for investigation.

TEACHERS' NAMES AND SALARIES.

	NO. OF WEEKS.	AMOUNT.
West School, Mrs. L. M. Hook,	32	\$224 00
Centre School Mrs C. A. Stearns,	32	288 00
Allen School, {	Miss Horacetine Crowley,	10 90 00
	Miss Mabel S. Morse,	20 160 00
	Miss Lucy J. Mitchell,	2 16 00
	Miss Annie Miller,	1 9 00
Northeast School, {	Mrs. Effie Bowen,	12 78 00
	Miss L. S. Clary,	18 117 00
Northwest School, Miss Fannie Stewart,	32	240 00

FINANCIAL ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS FROM STATE.

Massachusetts School Fund,	\$479 62	
Massachusetts School Fund, additional, for teachers' salaries,	294 00	
For Teachers' Salaries, in connection with supervision,	26 57	
One-half Superintendent's Salary,	47 26	
Reimbursement, High school tuition,	94 50	
	<hr/>	\$941 95

This amount has been expended, as follows :

For Teachers' Salaries,	\$800 19	
High School Tuition—Montague,	72 00	
High School Tuition—New Salem,	22 50	
One-half Superintendent's Salary to May 25, 1898,	47 26	
	<hr/>	\$941 95

RECEIPTS FROM TOWN.

Town appropriation, March, 1898,	\$1000 00	
Town school fund,	32 40	
Dog fund,	62 20	
	<hr/>	\$1094 60

EXPENDITURES.

Balance on teachers' salaries,	\$421 81	
One-half superintendent's salary,	47 27	
Fuel and fitting,	40 96	
Care of school-houses,	12 50	
Mileage,	28 00	
Tuition —Town of Erving, to March, 1898,	200 00	
“ “ New Salem,	10 80	
“ “ Shutesbury,	6 00	
Books and supplies,	89 05	
Repairs,	7 00	
School census—Farley,	2 00	
Miscellaneous,	5 95	
Salary school committee,	30 00	
	<hr/>	
Total expense to town,		\$901 34
		<hr/>
Balance unexpended,		\$193 26

The money received from the state can only be used for teachers' salaries, books of reference, etc., High School tuition, and for Superintendency. The balance of expenditures to be met by the town.

It will be found from the financial account that the expenses of schools to the town were \$901.34.

Funds from the state vary from year to year, being distributed somewhat on the basis of town appropriations for schools. The more liberal the town is, the larger response it receives from the state.

We cannot figure exactly the amount we may expend, as the returns from the state are so uncertain. We therefore plan for the minimum amount, and when an excess is received, as is the

case this year, it leaves funds that can be used to great advantage in the line of much needed repairs, grading, new blackboards, supplies, etc., and this we purpose to do early in the spring.

It would have been done before the close of this year, had we known to a certainty that the funds would have held out.

Respectfully submitted,

E. F. BUZZELL,	}	School Committee of Wendell.
MRS. C. A. STEARNS,		
E. D. GRAVES,		

NAMES OF PUPILS PERFECT IN ATTENDANCE ONE OR MORE TERMS.

Those marked with a star were perfect the entire year.

Brown, Ollie
Brown, Winnie
Ballou, Frank
Ballou, Henry
Cannon, Eddie
Cannon, Flossie
Cornwell, Carrie
Cornwell, Lyndon
Cornwell, Mary
Dirth, Florence
*Hook, Agnes
Hook, Gustof
Haskell, C. George
Hunter, John
Kazar, Bessie
Kazar, Sadie
*Leonard, Willis
Merchant, Lila
Merchant, Maud
Miner, Carrie
Miner, Ellen

Russell, Daisy
Stearns, Carol
Stone, Frank
Taylor, Edith
Taylor, Warren
Thomas, Earl
Thomas, Mamie
*Wentworth, Harold
Wentworth, Helen
Woodard, Elzina
Woodard, Frank
Woodard, Willie

FARLEY PUPILS

Betters, Frank
*Betters, Lorenzo
Betters, Venus
Barger, Walter

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF WENDELL:

Lady and Gentlemen,

My eighth annual report of the schools under your charge is herewith submitted.

In the following statistics, your attention is called to the gain in per cent. of attendance over last year. There is a considerable decrease in cases of tardiness and absence, although much remains to be desired in this direction:

Table showing Schools, Teachers, Attendance, etc., for 1898—99.

SCHOOLS.	TEACHERS.	NUMBER OF WEEKS.....	NUMBER ENROLLED.....	AVERAGE MEMBERSHIP...	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE	PER CENT. OF ATTENDANCE	CASES OF TARDINESS.....	NO. OF ½ DAY ABSENCES.....	NO. OF VISITORS.....
Centre,	Mrs. Cora A. Stearns,	32	34	22.69	21.89	96	30	258	101
Allen,	{ Miss Horacetina Crowley, Miss Mabel S. Morse, Substitutes,	10							
		20	16	12.44	12.18	98	21	94	31
		3							
Southwest,	Mrs. L. M. Hook,	32	11	8.59	8.08	94	51	131	63
Northwest,	Miss Frances T. Stewart,	32	23	13.90	13.15	95	34	240	47
Northeast,	{ Mrs. Effie L. Bowen, Miss Lizzie S. Clary,	12							
		18	8	6.97	6.78	97	6	60	41
	Total,		92	64.59	62.08	96	142	783	283
Pupils schooled at Farley,			19	17.44	16.29	93	0	382	

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

PUPILS SCHOOLED AT FARLEY.

Number of children in town May 1, between 5 and 15 years,	105	
“ “ “ “ “ “ 8 “ 14 “	69	
Whole number of children in schools,	92	19
“ “ “ “ “ “ under 5 years,	0	0
“ “ “ “ “ “ over 15 years,	5	0
“ “ “ “ “ “ between 5 and 15 years,	87	19
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ 8 “ 14 “	54	12
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ 7 “ 14 “	64	13
Average membership,	65	17
Average attendance,	62	16
Per cent. of attendance,	96	93
Whole number of schools,	5	
Number schooled in Erving, (Farley 10, Erving Village 3.)	22	
“ “ “ “ New Salem,	2	
“ “ “ “ Shutesbury,	3	
“ “ attending high school,	5	

Summary of Statistics, including the same for the past eight years.

	1891-92	1892-93	1893-94	1894-95	1895-96	1896-97	1897-98	1898-99
Number of children in town between 5 and 15 years,	89	99	93	96	80	104	120	105
Whole number in schools, not including those schooled out of town,	90	93	93	92	97	107	111	92
Whole number in schools under 5 years,	1	3	1	1	1	4	1	0
“ “ “ over 15 years,	13	2	1	4	1	9	9	5
“ “ “ between 5 and 15 years,	86	88	91	87	95	94	101	87
Average membership,	67	65	71	69	65	80	79	65
Average attendance,	62	60	66	65	61	76	74	62
Per cent. of attendance,	91	93	93	94	94	95	94	96
Whole number schools,	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

A retrospect of the year shows a marked improvement all along the line. The general conditions are very satisfactory. While the widest possibility in the work has not been reached or the highest practical results secured, our schools have shown a steady, systematic progress. Changes that have been made are very slight and in harmony with the practice of the best schools.

The work for the year was on a similar plan to that of the previous year. A better grade of teaching, somewhat broader, taking high rank in thoroughness and efficiency, and carried on with an enthusiasm and unanimity of purpose to be commended.

More and better work has been accomplished than in any previous year of my administration, owing largely to the fact that excepting changes at the Allen school by which we were somewhat hindered in our work for two or three weeks, we were able to secure and retain teachers of experience and training.

All teachers employed during the year either received a Normal School training or have had experience regarded as an equivalent.

Wendell has had a corps of teachers that will compare on the whole favorably with any town of similar size and conditions in the State.

The question of good schools is everywhere "at the front." The work of the schools calls for intelligent direction, and requires much greater skill than formerly on the part of teachers. The teacher must be a skilful and thorough workman to meet present conditions. The avenues to the teaching service must be guarded with a vigilance that is untiring and far seeing. Broad scholarship, training, culture, the progressive, professional spirit, must be insisted upon before opening its gates for entrance therein.

"What the teacher is, the school is," and the citizenship of the town's people depends in a large measure upon the kind of schools and qualifications of teachers in charge of them.

Whenever a vacancy occurs it is the aim of committee and superintendent to secure the best possible teacher, and great care is taken to know candidates as thoroughly as possible before entering upon an engagement with them. Our first choice is always the Normal school graduate of some experience, and if

possible she is visited in the schoolroom : the only sure way to learn of her methods and results. If the candidate cannot be seen in the schoolroom a personal interview is generally required.

So much depends upon the fitness of the teacher that it is a matter of serious regret that the professionally trained teachers are not always available for the small towns, largely owing to the fact that we cannot compete with the salaries paid in larger towns, and have a shorter school year.

There is no lack of applications from young, inexperienced and untrained teachers, but their future being a matter of conjecture we employ such very sparingly, feeling that the best that can be obtained with the money at our disposal is none too good, and to secure other than the best available would be untrue to our trust. It is not every young person who is adapted for teaching, endowed by nature, and it behooves us to take great precautions when engaging teachers for the schools.

The very existence of our Republic depends upon the quality of its schools, and I sometimes think more upon the country schools than upon those of the city. That man or woman lacks the spirit of true patriotism who would put a stumbling block in the way of the schools' best progress.

We invite your inspection of our schools at any and all times. Some people feel that school work is so different from what it formerly was, that it is of no use trying to understand it.

The main difference between the old and the new is in the quality of the work and the way in which results are arrived at ; better ways of arriving at same conclusions ; less of hardship ; better mental grasp. We are all,—committee, superintendent, parents,—striving for one end, the development of the child mentally, morally, physically. The better we understand each other, the more united and cordial we are in our work, the more satisfactory will be that work.

“The future of the Republic rests on the intelligence of its men and women,” and the future of the school depends upon the diligence and earnestness with which the patrons of the school and the citizens of the town espouse its cause.

We must exist in the present, not in the past. The citizens who live entirely in the past are not the citizens who lead the

town in a line of progress; are not those who are looked up to for the town's best good; are not the best citizens in every sense of the word. It is the man and the woman who lives in the spirit of the present who is the greatest factor in the town's healthful growth. So with the school. The modern school must prepare for modern life. It has been truly said, "Our educational horizon is constantly enlarging and we must make every effort to adapt ourselves to changed conditions."

"We are living in a very different world from that of our grandparents, and as the squire of old was trained for his *future* career so must we train our squire of to-day."

Our course of study is arranged as far as possible to meet the wants of each individual child, consequently it must undergo slight modifications from time to time to meet existing conditions. As far as possible we meet every want from primary to grammar grades.

The same course of study is used in the Wendell schools as in the schools of Erving and Orange, and they are visited on an average as frequently by the superintendent as are the schools of these towns. The same examinations and tests are required for promotions, and all pupils who are regular in attendance and diligent in their work are able at any time, should necessity arise, to go to any school in the district and continue the work without a break.

Our aim is to meet the requirements of the High schools and Academies in the surrounding towns, which are equal to the requirements of similar institutions throughout the State. To do this we must have a good grade of teaching, a sufficient number of textbooks and supplies, a certain amount of home work in upper classes, and that very important factor—constant attendance.

Algebra, geometry and Latin are finding their way very rapidly into the grammar schools of the State, and when these studies are required we supply them.

Two weeks of school were added to the year, making thirty-two weeks in all. This means more and better work, and I am sure will give the town good returns. The two weeks were added to meet the requirements of the law.

Examinations are given from time to time in all the schools by

the superintendent for the purpose of testing spelling, punctuation, power of expression as well as knowledge of the subject matter. These tests also serve to show the teacher defects in individuals as well as those common to all, and aim to be suggestive and helpful to teachers as well as pupils.

Any pupil who by examination and daily recitation shows an ability to do more work than that in the grade to which he is assigned, is promptly placed in the grade above and allowed to go on as rapidly as his mental and physical condition will allow.

A daily program is prepared by teachers at opening of fall term, and a copy is furnished the superintendent. While this program is not followed arbitrarily, it serves to give exactness to the system, to train pupils to habits of promptness and punctuality, and what is more important still, it protects the children's best interests in guarding the teachers against the neglect of one set of studies in favor of others; each class is assured its proportion of time,—a great advantage in country schools where there is so great a variety of classes.

All are striving for the one object of making the schools more and more valuable, to the end that those of Wendell have steadily, though perhaps slowly, improved, and to-day finds a similar course of study in use in our schools to those used in the best schools of the State. Students in Wendell who are regular in their attendance and studious in their habits are receiving that for which other towns pay almost double.

At the beginning of the fall term special work was given in phonic drills as a means of vocal training and syllabic analysis of words, and effort made for better positions, clear distinct articulation and correct pronunciation.

Teachers were instructed to give these exercises daily, and in some cases the results have been very gratifying. This training is helpful, not alone in reading but in all oral recitations of the day, is no longer looked upon as an exercise whose aim is alone, *oral reading*.

The reading in the schools has been carried along two distinct lines. First:—Oral reading, for the purpose of giving to others the thought conveyed by the printed page, and interesting the hearers in the story. Second:—Silent reading, for the purpose of training pupils in independent reading, and cultivating a habit and taste for good reading and an interest in the best

library books. Pupils are assigned a lesson, time given when necessary for its study, with free access to the dictionary, then tested as to their understanding of what the author aimed to convey to the reader. If phonic work is given systematically and sufficiently, attention fixed on the thought, clear fluent expression naturally follows, and thoughtful, fluent readers is the result.

Much of the reading in the upper grades serves to reinforce the geography, history and science.

The plan of passing books from one school to another during the year has enabled us to obtain a greater variety than if we bought complete sets for each school, and saves quite a little money for other necessary supplies.

There is still poor reading, but there has been considerable improvement, both in articulation and correct pronunciation, also in appreciation and interest in good reading. A special source of gratification has been the improvement during the year in oral expression in all departments of work.

There is no influence so strong in shaping the character as good reading. Influence not only upon the children, but carried into homes which would never be otherwise reached, indirectly influencing the social and moral life of the town.

When our pupils complete the grammar school course they have used in addition to regular school readers, a large amount of choice literature as well as works pertaining to nature and history.

In the latter part of the spring term an exhibit of school work was held in the town hall at Orange. It was inspected by a large number of citizens, aroused a great deal of interest and called forth many words of commendation and praise.

The work from Wendell compared very favorably with that from Orange, and created a good deal of interest.

In preparing the work, great pains was taken to present such as would not only show results, but would as far as possible illustrate the character of the work and the methods of teaching employed in the schools.

Pupils did not know beforehand what they would be required to do. Much better work could have been shown if pupils were assigned work in advance, permitting them to practice, and selecting the best, for there are in all schools a few pupils who will do good work in everything, with very little instruction.

The best exhibit, one which shows the real efficiency of the work, is one in which all pupils are given opportunity to take part, showing the best work that each can do.

The exhibit included specimens of work in drawing, penmanship, arithmetic, geography, language, history and nature studies.

Wendell also exhibited work in town hall in connection with Memorial Day exercises. All the schools were invited to join in the observance of the day, and pupils from the several schools participated. Rev. J. W. Brownville of Erving was secured by the committee to give an address, which was very helpful and inspiring.

The third year of vertical penmanship confirms our predictions, and results have been very gratifying. A comparison of the writing in our schools to-day with that of four years ago is a sufficient proof of its merits.

It has been truly said that "anyone who can see and reason can learn to write easily and legibly," no matter if it does not "run in the family."

"Movement is acknowledged to be the parent of form." Ease of movement is indispensable to simplicity of form, legibility, rapidity.

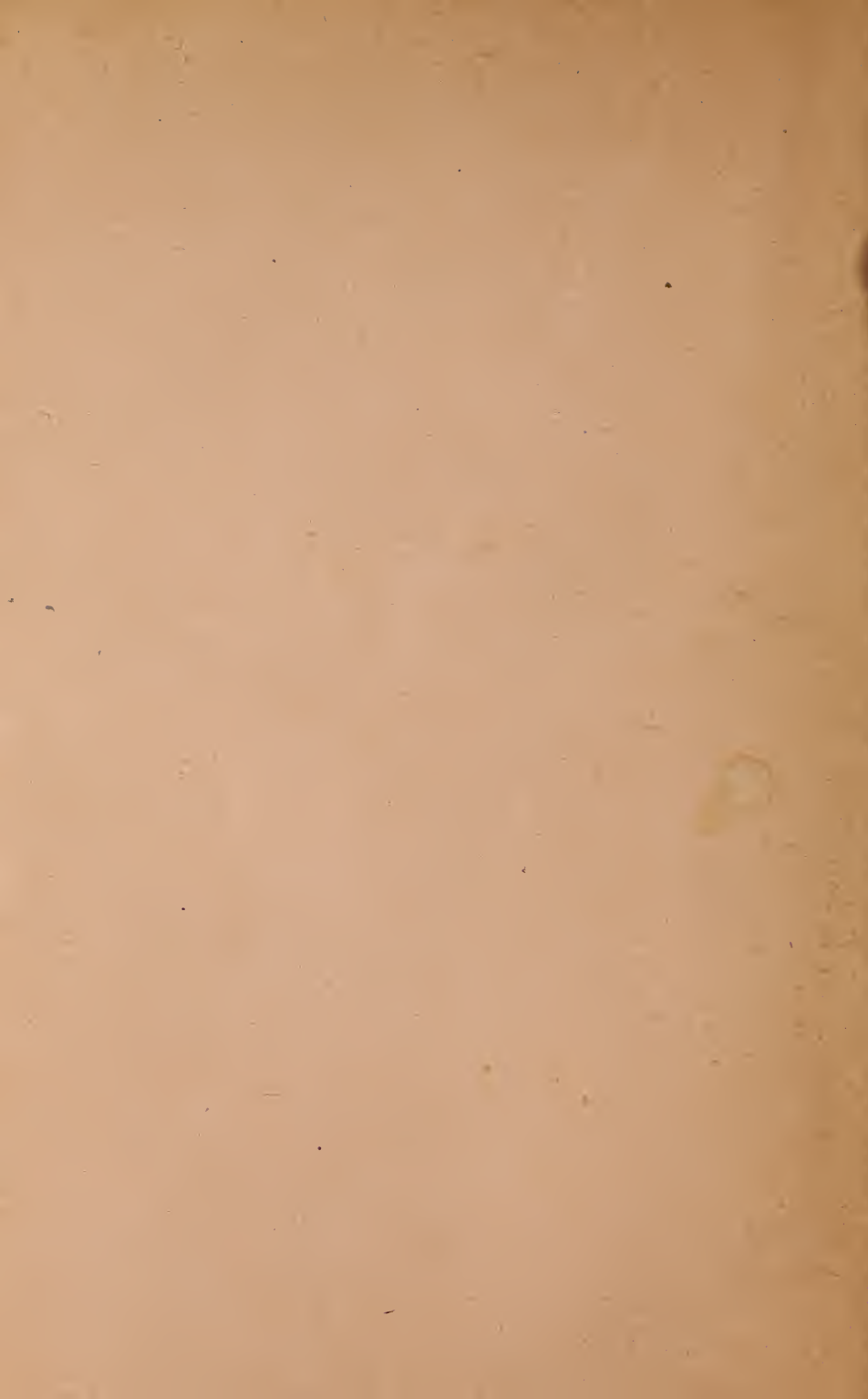
The requisites are good position, mental conception of the forms of the letters, muscle discipline, good material. The necessity and importance of good position has been recognized by all. Pupils generally have acquired the habit of good position, but proper movement is yet mastered by only a few. This is the greatest obstacle in the way of good penmanship.

Writing is a language medium, hence the necessity for legibility and rapidity. To secure this the muscles of the hand and arm must be under the control of the will, and this can only be accomplished by systematic muscle training. We are making an earnest effort in these lines, not only in our lessons in penmanship, but in all written work.

In submitting this report, I would emphasize the thought that surely a great responsibility rests upon the citizens of our glorious Republic in the maintenance of the schools. The light in which the community regards them determines to a large extent the quality and grade that can be maintained. Your loyal support and encouragement in the past has been a large factor in the success of our schools, and has given to Wendell high rank in educational matters among similar towns in the State. I know of few towns in which the spirit of loyalty to, and co-operation with the schools has been more pronounced, and I assure you your superintendent appreciates this fact.

Respectfully submitted,

LIZZIE A. MASON, Supt. of Schools.



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